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Health Facts for you

UW HEALTH - ONLINE HEALTH FACT

Ethambutol (oral)

ETHAMBUTOL (e-THAM-byoo-tole) is used to treat tuberculosis (TB). It is used together with one or more other medicines for TB. This medicine may also be used for other medical problems.

Tell your doctor, nurse, and pharmacist if you:

- have allergies;
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant;
- are breast-feeding;
- are taking any other prescription medicines, including birth control pills and blood thinners.
- are taking any over-the-counter medicines such as cold medicines and pain relievers (Tylenol[®], Advil[®], Motrin[®], aspirin)
- have any other medical problems including kidney disease or optic neuritis (eye nerve damage), gout, alcohol use, or liver disease.

Take This Medicine:

- exactly the way your doctor told you. Do
 NOT stop taking this medicine until you are told to do so, even if you feel better.
- with food if it upsets your stomach;

Warning:

- Do not miss any doses. If you do miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next regularly scheduled dose. Do NOT take two doses at the same time.
- Do not share your medicine with others.
- Keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Visit your doctor regularly.
- Store your medicine in a cool dry place, away from extreme heat or cold.
- If you think you have taken an overdose of this medicine, check with your doctor.
- Limit the amount of alcohol you drink while on this medicine to avoid possible liver problems. Alcohol may also decrease the effectiveness of this medicine.
- If you have blurred vision, eye pain, redgreen color blindness, or loss of vision, check with your doctor right away.
- Do not drive or do dangerous jobs if this medicine makes you dizzy or causes blurred vision, loss of vision, or red-green color blindness.

Possible side effects of this medicine include:

- Nausea, vomiting or loss of appetite
- Stomach pain
- Headache
- Dizziness

Call your doctor if you have any of these RARE side effects:

- Fever or chills
- Pain and swelling of joints, especially in the big toe, ankle or knee
- Intense, hot skin over the affected joint
- Numbness, weakness, tingling or burning pain in the hands or feet
- Skin rash, severe itching, or hives
- Any loss of vision, blurred vision, eye pain, or red-green color blindness
- Wheezing or trouble breathing.

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